

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments, submission of a certified translation of the priority document dated September 4, 1995, and the following comments is courteously solicited.

The Examiner rejected claims 18-27 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Applicant has attended to the minor informalities raised by the Examiner in this rejection. In addition, Applicant has made minor amendments to the claims so as to present the claims in a more acceptable U.S. format. Accordingly, independent claim 18 has been amended so as to positively recite the process steps of providing, introducing and activating. These amendments to claim 18 do not further limit the claim and the claim remains of the same scope as originally filed.

Applicant submits herewith a certified copy of the German Priority Application 295 14 164.6 filed September 4, 1995 as well as a verified English translation of same. The process as claimed in pending claim 18 is fully described starting on Page 3 line 27 through Page 5 line 11 of the English translation of the certified priority document. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejection should be withdrawn in light of the perfection by Applicant of their priority date of September 4, 1995.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the instant application is now in condition for allowance and an early indication of same is respectfully requested.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the

Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

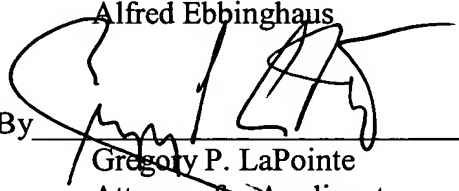
It is submitted that the claims as amended herein patentably define over the art relied on by the Examiner and early allowance of same is courteously solicited.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

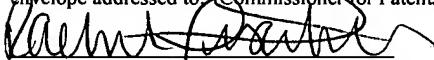
Alfred Ebbinghaus

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Date: November 11, 2003

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on November 11, 2003.


Rachel Piscitelli